

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-14, 16-27, 29-37, 39-43, and 46 are currently pending in this application. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-8, and 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,898,762 to Ellis et al. (hereinafter, merely "*Ellis*") in view of UK Patent Application No. 2343074 to Miller et al. (hereinafter, merely "*Miller*"), U.S. Patent No. 7,469,413 to Mizutome et al. (hereinafter, merely "*Mizutome*"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,437,836 to Huang et al. (hereinafter, merely "*Huang*"). Claims 9, 14, 16-20, and 22-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Huang* in view of *Miller* and *Mizutome*. Claims 10-13 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Huang* in view of *Miller*, *Mizutome*, and further in view of

Ellis. Also, claims 29, 31-37, 39-40, and 42-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Ellis* in view of *Miller* and further in view of *Mizutome*.

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“An information processing system comprising:

...

converter means for converting said program information from a page description language format to another database format that excludes tag information, wherein said another database format comprises a less amount of data than said page description language, ...” (Emphasis added)

A. A Converter Means that Converts Retrieved Program Information To A File Format Comprising Less Data Is Not Taught Or Suggested In The Prior Art

Neither *Ellis*, *Miller*, *Mizutome* nor *Huang*, taken either alone or in combination, disclose or contemplate a “converter means for converting [the] program information from a page description language format to another database format that excludes tag information, wherein said another database format comprises a less amount of data than said page description language[,]” as recited in claim 1.

In particular, the Office Action (i.e., page 4) asserts that the above-recited portion of claim 1 is taught by *Ellis* (column 1, line 65 through col. 2, line 3). Based on at least the following reasoning, Applicants respectfully disagree.

Rather, according to *Ellis*, a main facility (and other sources) may provide (e.g., via link 18, Fig. 1) program guide data to a television distribution facilities via a satellite link, a telephone network link, a cable or fiber optic link, a microwave link, an Internet link, a

combination of such links, or any other suitable communications link. *Column 1, line 65 through col. 2, line 3.*

In contrast, *Ellis* provides a choice of communication methodology (e.g., via microwave link, fiber optic link, satellite link, etc.) and does not disclose or contemplate a “page description language format” or “database format[ing] that excludes tag information [,]” much less:

- “convertor means for converting program information from a page description language format to another database format that excludes tag information,” whereby
- “the another database format comprises a less amount of data than said page description language[,] as recited in claim 1.

In *Ellis*, program guide data is *merely* transmitted (via a suitable communication link) to a television distribution facility without any discussion or suggestion regarding the conversion of program information to a less amount of data.

Further, on page 8 of the Office Action, it is also alleged that *Huang* discloses “a portable terminal that utilizes the PALM operating system which would (see FIG. 2) require the EPG to be converted to a language that excludes tag information that requires less data to be transmitted.”

According to *column 6, lines 4-38 of Huang*, FIG. 2 is a diagram showing the fundamental construction of the extended functionality remote and software-based remote control and electronic program guide according to an embodiment of the present invention. A hardware attachment is comprised of three subsystems: a keypad subsystem (201), a

microcontroller (202), and a infrared transmitter subsystem (203). The microcontroller (202) may comprise, e.g., a Motorola 68HC11 microcontroller. A personal digital assistant or other portable computer device (204) is used to receive, process, and send information to the hardware attachment related to remote control emulation and the electronic program guide.

A user initiated keystroke is applied to the pushbuttons (205) located on the keypad subsystem (201), which, in the present embodiment, has a key arrangement as shown in FIG. 1A. An encoder (206) translates the pushbutton input into a 5-bit binary code representation of the number which is then sent to the microcontroller (202). The arrival of binary code data results in an external interrupt (207). This binary code data is passed to the serial communications interface (208), from the serial port (209) on the microcontroller (202) to the serial port (210) on the personal digital assistant or other portable computer device (204).

The operating system (211) passes the keypad information to the application (212) which converts the keypad information into the appropriate remote control code data sequence. Details of the remote control code data sequence and the generation of such data will be described below.

The remote control code sequence is passed back through the operating system (211) and serial ports (210) and (209) to the serial communications interface (208). Data received in this manner from the serial port (209) is processed by the microcontroller (202), converting the remote control code sequence into a binary code for transmission by the infrared transmitter subsystem (203). This conversion also triggers a timer output compare interrupt (213), while appropriate modulation (214) is applied in conjunction with the carrier square wave

generation (215), with the resulting signal amplified and transmitted by the signal amplifier and IR transmission (216) module which strobes a regular infrared LED (217).

In contrast, *Huang* merely describes the role of the operating system (211) in passing the keypad information to the application (212) which converts the keypad information into the appropriate remote control code data sequence. This conversion of keypad information into the appropriate remote control code data sequence does not disclose or in any way contemplate a “converter means for converting program information from a page description language format to another database format that excludes tag information, wherein said another database format comprises a less amount of data than said page description language[,]” as recited in claim 1. Additionally, such conversion features are in no way an inherent feature of the PALM OS.

By way of example and not limitation, paragraphs [00131] and [00132] of Applicants’ published application discloses:

[0131] The TV program information service provider 14 offers TV program information in pdb (Palm Database) format files to the personal computer 9 or to the PDA 1 in response to requests from the latter. Web-based TV program information offered by existing TV program service providers has been typically described in such page description languages as HTML (HyperText Markup Language), XML (eXtensible Markup Language) and Compact-HTML. While being fit for general use, the program information written in these languages tends to be bulky and structured hierarchically using tags. That means the data are flexible in terms of formats but require analysis before use following their retrieval. In its related-art form, the program information is thus not very suitable for browsing by the PDA 1.

[0132] By contrast, the pdb format is a general-purpose database format compatible with the Palm OS. Binary data and text data can be stored in mixed fashion in the pdb format that is dependent on Palm OS applications. Because pdb-format data are converted by a converter to a specific format, there is no need for data analysis. With no extra tag information to deal with, the amount of the data can be minimized.

Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable. Independent claims 5, 7, 9, 26-27, 29, 36-37, 39, and 42-43, which are similar in scope to claim 1, are also patentable for similar reasons.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is, therefore, respectfully requested.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

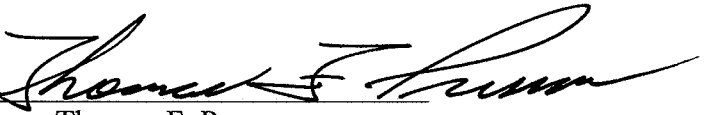
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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